## House Amendment 8488

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Amend Senate File 2298, as amended, passed, and 2 reprinted by the Senate, as follows: #1. Page 128, by inserting after line 4, the 4 following:

- \_\_. ADOPTION SUBSIDY PROGRAM.
  . a. It is the intent of the general assembly 7 that the department of human services maximize receipt 8 of the federal funding available for the adoption 1 9 subsidy program. The department may renegotiate
  1 10 existing adoption agreements solely for the purpose of 1 11 maximizing federal funding. However, any revision of 1 12 the existing adoption monthly maintenance payment 13 agreement shall not result in the reduction of 1 14 benefits to these adoptive families.
  - b. The limitation on attorney fees under the
- 1 16 program shall be \$500 per recipient. 1 17 c. The department of human services shall attempt 1 18 to develop a method to obtain federal matching funds 1 19 for adoption subsidy program recipients' out=of=pocket 1 20 payments to attorneys for the portion of attorney fees 1 21 that exceed the limitation on attorney fees under the 1 22 program.
- d. The department of human services shall attempt 23 1 24 to obtain federal matching funds for adoption subsidy 1 25 program recipients' out=of=pocket payments for child 26 care fees that exceed the applicable reimbursement 27 rate established under the child care assistance 1 28 program.
- e. If cost=effective and in compliance with 1 30 federal law and regulation, the department of human 1 31 services may implement a sliding benefit scale based 1 32 upon income, for all or a portion of the adoption 1 33 presubsidy or preadoptive subsidy agreements entered 1 34 into on or after July 1, 2004.
- 2. It is the intent of the general assembly that 1 36 beginning July 1, 2004, adoption subsidy agreements 37 entered into on or after that date shall be 1 38 administered uniformly throughout the state.
- 1 39 3. a. Beginning July 1, 2004, the child care 1 40 subsidy payments for individuals who enter into 1 41 presubsidy or preadoptive subsidy agreements shall be 1 42 governed by the provisions of the department of human 1 43 services' child care assistance programs.
- b. (1) Individuals who entered into presubsidy or 1 45 preadoptive subsidy agreements on or before June 30, 1 46 2004, shall continue to receive a child care subsidy, 1 47 notwithstanding any income guidelines specified under 1 48 the child care assistance program, and shall not be 1 49 required to meet the specifications of a specialized 1 50 program as specified in the administrative rules, but 2 1 beginning July 1, 2004, the child care subsidy rate 2 shall be governed by the rate ceilings under the 3 department of human services' child care assistance 4 program.
- (2) The department shall notify these individuals 6 within thirty days of the effective date of this 7 section of this Act of the potential change in the 8 determination of the child care subsidy rate described 9 under this subsection, and the process for requesting 2 10 an exception to policy.
- (3) If an individual requests an exception to 2 12 policy and the exception is approved, the individual 13 shall continue to receive the child care subsidy rate 2 14 in effect for the individual prior to July 1, 2004, 2 15 and shall be reimbursed the difference between the 2 16 prior rate and the new rate for the period of time
- 17 that the new rate was applied.
  18 4. It is the intent of the general assembly that 2 18 2 19 any rules relating to the adoption subsidy program for 20 which the effective date of the rules is delayed 21 pursuant to section 17A.8, subsection 9, shall take 2 22 effect unless legislation enacted by the general 2 23 assembly conflicts with such rules.
  - 5. The legislative council is requested to

2 25 establish an interim study committee to review the 2 26 adoption subsidy program, which includes a review of 2 27 current practices regarding the determination of 28 subsidy levels, disparities in subsidy levels among 29 regions of the state, program cost and benefits, the 30 fiscal and programmatic impact of projected future 31 program growth, a thorough analysis of the demographic 32 factors of the adoptive families as well as the 33 adoptive children's special needs, and quantification 34 of savings in other programs and services resulting 35 from the utilization of the adoption subsidy program. 36 The interim study committee shall seek input from the 37 department of human services, adoptive parents, and 38 others with experience or expertise relating to the 39 adoption subsidy program and related services and 40 supports. The interim study committee shall submit a 2 41 report of findings and recommendations to the general 2 42 assembly not later than December 1, 2004.> #2. Page 138, by inserting after line 15 the 43 2 44 following: 2 45 <\_\_\_\_. The section of this division of this Act 2 46 2 47 2 48 2 49 2 50 relating to the adoption subsidy program.> <u>#3.</u> By renumbering as necessary. 3 HUSER of Polk 1 3 333333 5 KURTENBACH of Story 8 9 HEATON of Henry 3 10 SF 229 3 11 pf/gg 10 SF 2298.752 80